

NCCF Project Home

Coordinated by Kathy Connelly, Volunteer



Project Goal

To provide formerly homeless families who have obtained housing through the Family Stabilization Program (FSP) at the National Center for Children and Families (NCCF) with a "home".

Project Components

Volunteer Kathy Connelly personalizes each apartment for incoming families based on their tastes and likes. Many have lost most/all of their possessions due to homelessness. She meets each family's unique style with her extensive experience and knowledge in interior decorating.

Timeline for Planning

- Anywhere from three weeks to a month is used in developing a layout and theme for each home as well as in obtaining the items.
- Kathy is given a background of each family, including names, ages, & genders.
- After the design and layout of the apartment are complete and all required items (furniture, paint, décor, etc.) are obtained, it takes her a day to put everything together completely.

How Many Volunteers?

To complete an individual apartment, a minimum of 8 volunteers are used (this includes all aspects of the project – design/layout, obtaining necessary items, cleaning, decorating, etc.).

Time Commitment

As this is an ongoing project, there is no minimum time commitment expected from volunteers. It could be a one-time project, or ongoing depending on the volunteer.

Expenses

Most of the items received are in-kind donations, however Kathy does have a storage unit for bulky items, which is approximately \$2000 per month. She relies solely on community donations to make up this cost.

Publicity

There is currently no publicity for this project. Kathy relies on her circle of friends and neighbors and word of mouth.

Challenges

Matching items received in donations from the community with the taste and need of the families.

Results

Long lasting as families get to keep any furnishings acquired in their new homes with them forever and as they transition out of FSP, but the biggest accomplishment is having families who have lost everything during homelessness, have their house be turned into a home.

Points of Interest

- > Patience is key
- > Have fun!